

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 – 21. Canceled.

22. (Currently Amended) An electric household appliance, comprising:
a receptacle for receiving items to be handled by the electric household appliance;
a door permitting access to the receptacle; and
a door lock for the door, the door lock having a frame located on the door with an opening for a hook, a closing member movably mounted in the frame, a closing spring disposed between the closing member and a counter-bearing in the frame, a gripping device that can be gripped and moved by a user to open the door lock, the closing member being operatively connected to the gripping device, and means for selectively blocking movement of the closing member, the means for selectively blocking movement of the closing member being selectively positionable between a first position in which the means for selectively blocking movement of the closing member blocks a movement of the closing member, whereupon the blocked movement of the closing member operates as a child safety feature and a second position in which the means for selectively blocking movement of the closing member does not block movement of the closing member, whereupon the child safety feature is deactivated.

23. (Previously Presented) The electric household appliance according to claim 22, wherein, in the first position with the child safety feature activated, a locking head of the means for selectively blocking is inserted into a recess of the closing member and the movement of the closing member is thereby positively blocked.

24. (Currently Amended) The electric household appliance according to claim 22, wherein the means for selectively blocking movement comprises a locking head which, in the first position of the means for selectively blocking with the child safety feature activated, is inserted in a recess of a portion of the frame ~~door~~ so that as a result of a positive connection between the locking head and the recess, any forces applied to the locking head are transferred to the recess.

25. (Previously Presented) The electric household appliance according to claim 23, wherein when the means for selectively blocking is located in the second position with the child safety feature deactivated, the locking head of the means for selectively blocking is located outside the recess of the closing member and thereby the movement of the closing member is not blocked.

26. (Previously Presented) The electric household appliance according to claim 25, wherein the locking head of the means for selectively blocking moves between the first position and the second position in a direction of movement that is substantially perpendicular to the direction of movement of the closing member, and wherein the locking head of the means for selectively blocking has a conical shape with increasing diameter beginning at the free end of the locking head so that, when very high forces act on the closing member, angled contact between a circumferential surface of the locking head and a bearing surface of the recess of the closing member generates a normal force that causes, the means for selectively blocking to move into the second position.

27. (Previously Presented) The electric household appliance according to claim 22, wherein the closing spring is tensioned, and wherein the gripping device is pressed against a part of the frame by the closing spring at a contact point when the door lock is in an open position, wherein the gripping device has a gripping latch into which the hook is guided on passing through the opening in the frame and has a contact surface onto which the incoming hook presses, thereby causing a movement of the gripping

device, wherein the gripping device is shaped so that it rotates and loses contact with the contact point as the hook presses into the gripping device, and wherein the closing spring thereafter presses the gripping device into a new position which latches the door lock in a closed position.

28. (Previously Presented) The electric household appliance according to claim 22, wherein the means for selectively blocking comprises a locking head that is fixed to a pivoted shaft by means of a pivoted lever so that the locking head of the means for selectively blocking can execute a rotary movement between the first position and the second position.

29. (Previously Presented) The electric household appliance according to claim 28, wherein the means for selectively blocking further comprises a restoring lever connected to the pivoted shaft and a spring that acts against the restoring lever to apply a restoring moment to the pivoted shaft so that the means for selectively blocking is biased towards the first position to activate the child safety feature.

30. (Previously Presented) The electric household appliance according to claim 28, wherein the means for selectively blocking further comprises an adjusting lever connected to the pivoted shaft, wherein a rectangular plate is formed on the adjusting lever, the rectangular plate including a protruding locating lug and a protruding limiting lug, and wherein the plate is elastically deformable.

31. (Previously Presented) The electric household appliance according to claim 30, wherein the door lock comprises a handle with a gripping shell, and wherein a free end of the adjusting lever projects partly over a slot-shaped recess in the gripping shell, and wherein a lateral or horizontal movement of the free end of the adjusting lever will cause pivoting movement of the pivoted shaft that will cause the means for selectively blocking to be moved between the first position and the second position.

32. (Previously Presented) The electric household appliance according to claim 31, wherein the adjusting lever is used to fix the means for selectively blocking in the second position for continuous deactivation of the child safety feature.

33. (Canceled).

34. (Previously Presented) The electric household appliance according to claim 22, wherein the means for selectively blocking is arranged on an actuating slider in a slider housing and by means of a translational movement of the actuating slider in the slider housing, the means for selectively blocking can be moved between the first position and the second position.

35. (Previously Presented) The electric household appliance according to claim 34, wherein the door lock comprises a handle with a gripping shell, and wherein the means for selectively blocking further comprises an actuating lever formed on the actuating slider, the actuating lever projecting from a slot in the gripping shell of the handle, wherein the actuating slider is moved with the actuating lever to move the means for selectively blocking between the first and second positions, and wherein the actuating lever is pressed into the first position by a spring.

36. (Previously Presented) The electric household appliance according to claim 35, wherein the means for selectively blocking further comprises a locating lug formed on the actuating slider, wherein when the means for selectively blocking is in the second position, the actuating slider engages in a recess of the slider housing.

37. (Previously Presented) The electric household appliance according to claim 22, wherein the movement of the means for selectively blocking between the first

and second positions to activate and deactivate the child safety feature can be accomplished from a top of the door using an actuating element.

38. (Previously Presented) The electric household appliance according to claim 37, wherein the actuating element is removably mounted on the top of the door.

39. (Previously Presented) The electric household appliance according to claim 38, wherein the actuating element is connected to an actuating shaft on which a cam is formed, and wherein rotation of the actuating shaft causes the cam to move the means for selectively blocking between the first and second positions.

40-42. (Canceled).

43. (Previously Presented) The electric household appliance according to claim 22, wherein the closing spring biases the closing member towards a locked position.

44. (Previously Presented) The electric household appliance according to claim 22, wherein the gripping device is pivotally mounted on the closing member.